

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

NEA-10 OIC-02 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 AID-05

SIL-01 LAB-04 /121 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8496

INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 2734

UNCLAS GENEVA 1589

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TAGS: AORG APER UNOG

SUBJECT: GENEVA STRIKE: MARCH 3 SITUATION

REF: GENEVA 1538

1. REGULAR 1000 MORNING MEETING OF STRIKING UN PALAIS STAFF MARCH 3 RESULTED ONCE AGAIN IN DECISION TO CONTINUE STRIKE. SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO MEETINGS IN GENEVA CONTINUES AS BEFORE. (NEW REPORT PARA 5 BELOW.)

2. UN CONTROLLER HELMUT BEBATIN SUCCEEDED MARCH 2 IN GETTING NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY. MEETING FIRST WITH PALAIS STAFF REPS HE ATTEMPTED TO WORK OUT TEXT FROM WHICH NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT PROCEED. IN SUBSEQUENT MEETING IN WHICH HEADS OF ALL GENEVA STAFF ASSOCIATIONS AND EXECUTIVE HEADS OF ALL GENEVA-BASED ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATED UNDER HIS CHAIRMANSHIP HEADS OF ALL STAFF ASSOCIATIONS EXCEPT PALAIS ASSOCIATION AGREED TO ACCEPT DEBATIN TEXT. REPORT WE HAVE IS THAT THEY DID SO IN FAIRLY QUICK MANNER NEAR OUTSET
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OF LENGTHY MEETING (1700 TO 0130 AM), WHICH PLACES

PALAIS REPS IN ISOLATED POSITION.
NEGOTIATIONS DESCRIBED TO MISOFF BY CHAIRMAN OF PALAIS
ASSOCIATION AS "SLOW, TEDIOUS AND TOUGH," BUT NEGOTIATIONS
IN WHICH DEFINITE PROGRESS MADE. KEY ISSUE,
AS EXPECTED, WAS HOW BATTELLE REPORT IS TO BE TREATED.
(HARD LINTERS AMONG EXECUTIVE HEADS WOULD LIKE TO THROW
OUT BATTELLE REPORT AND ITS RESULTS ENTIRELY, WHILE
HARD LINERS ON OTHER SIDE REGARD BATTELLE RESULTS
AS SACROSANCT AND ABOVE REVIEW.) AGREEMENT WAS
ULTIMATELY REACHED THAT THERE WOULD NEED TO BE "LIMITED
ANALYSIS" OF BATTELLE REPORT. EXECUTIVE HEADS
ARE MEETING AT PALAIS THIS MORNING TO CONSIDER NEXT
STEPS.

3. NOW THAT GENEVA-WIDE NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY
CONTRASTING SENTIMENT OF OTHER STAFF ASSOCIATIONS IS
BECOMING NECESSARILY MORE VISIBLE. EMPHATIC DEMONSTRATION
OF THIS WAS VOTE BY ILO STAFF ASSOCIATION AT
MEETING MARCH 2 WHICH ENDORSED POSTURE OF ITS
LEADERSHIP (ACCEPTANCE OF BLANCHARD'S ASSURANCES AND
UNDERTAKING TO TRY TO OPEN UP GENEVA-WIDE NEGOTIATIONS)
BY TROUNCING VOTE OF 393-2-5. POINT TO BE OBSERVED
HOWEVER, IS THAT DIFFERENCE OF OTHER ASSOCIATIONS WITH
PALAIS STRIKERS IS ONE OF TACTICS, AND DOES NOT IN
ITSELF REFLECT ANY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE OF SENTIMENT
ON BASIC BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUES RAISED BY BATTELLE
FINDINGS. PLACING ILO VOTE INTO THIS PERSPECTIVE
ILO STAFF ASSOCIATION HEAD TAKI OBSERVED TO MISOFF THAT
HE ADAMENTLY OPPOSED THROWING AWAY AT THIS STAGE LEVERAGE
WHICH STRIKE THREAT COULD PROVIDE TO HIM AT MORE
ADVANCED POINT IN NEGOTIATIONS.

4. MOREOVER, NOW THAT GENEVA-WIDE TALKS HAVE BEGUN
TO ILLUMINATE CONTRAST BETWEEN PALAIS STAFF AND OTHERS,
IT IS FILTERING OUT, AND INTO PRESS, THAT OTHER THAN
BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUES ARE AT PLAY IN PALAIS DISPUTE.
THESE NEED STILL TO BE ARTICULATED, HOWEVER, AND MAY
EVEN NEED FIRST TO BE BETTER DEFINED FROM THE STAFF
SIDE SO THEN CAN BE ARTICULATED.

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5. REPORTS WHICH BEGAN CIRCULATING IN LATE MORNING
THAT STRIKE SETTLED NOW APPEAR CONFIRMED.
MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF PALAIS STAFF CALLED FOR 4 PM
WITH ANNOUNCEMENT ANTICIPATED TO BE MADE AT 4:30 PL.
WILL SUPPLEMENT WITH DETAILS AS THESE BECOME CLEAR. DALE

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